wintering in the Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Bharatpur.

(b) No, Sir. However, the number of Siberian Cranes coming to the park has declined over the years At present only 3 Siberian Cranes have arrived as compared to 4 in the last winter.

(c) The main cause of decline is hunting and habitat destruction along its migrtory route, particularly in Afghanistan and Pakistan

Integrated Oil Board

2704. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to set up an Integrated Oil Board for better coordination and develoment of the various sectos of oils and fats economy including oil seeds farming, oil extration and processing industry

(b) if so, whether any memorandum has also been received by the Government from the Indian Vanaspati Producers Association in this regard

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto, and

(d) the time by which this Board is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b) Government has received a proposal/ memorandum from Indian Vanaspati Producers Association for better coordination and development of the various sectors of oils and fats economy including oilseeds farming, oil extraction and processing industry.

(c) and (d) Government is of the view that there is no need to create a separate board, for this purpose. Some of the suggested activities by the IVPA in their memorandum could be taken care of by existing organizations such as National Oilseeds and Vegetable Oil Development Board (NOVOD)/Directorate of Vanaspati, Vegetable Oils and Fats and the remaining activities are already been undertaken by the Government.

Unauthorised Drawing of Sand

2705. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of cases of unauthorised drawing of sand from the sea-shore detected during the last three years;

(b) whether any action has been taken by the Government against the persons involved therein; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) to (c). According to the information received from Government of Maharashtra, two incidences of illegal sand excavation from beach at Awas, Tal. Alibag, Distt. Raigad were detected on 14.11.95 and 9.12.95 for which court case was filed against the sand excavators. Third incident of illegal sand excavation was detected on 27.7.96 near Kolgaon beach, Distt. Raigad, for which legal action has been initiated by the Collector, Raigad.

No cases of unathorised drawing of sand from sea shore have been detected in Lakshadeep as informed by Lakshadeep Administration. Information from other Coastal States/Union Territories is awaited and will be furnished after it is received.

[Translation]

Chemical Factory

2706. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the people of Mathura are facing hardships due to poisonous gas coming out from the chemical factories situated near the district;

(b) if so, the details thereof, and

(c) the action taken/proposed to be taken by the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) No Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

[English]

Warehouees/Godowns

2707. SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) the locations of warehouses/godowns under operation by the Food Corporation of India and Central Warehousing Corporation in the country, State-wise; and

(b) the total storage capacity thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) :

(a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.